

**Spring  
Issue:  
2010**

# *Laclede County*

## **Soil and Water Conservation District**

**1242 Deadra Drive, Lebanon, MO 65536**

**March 2010**

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### **Earth Day Celebrates 40 Years**

April 22, 2010 will mark the 40 anniversary of Earth Day. Earth Day was created to inform students about environmental issues. Issues related to environmental awareness like recycling, energy efficiency, planting trees. Senator Gaylord Nelson is the founder of Earth Day. Senator Nelson felt that the sixties anti-war sentiment could be harnessed to promote environmental concerns. He organized a nation-wide observance in 1962. Senator Nelson took President John F. Kennedy on an eleven state "conservation tour" to promote the idea of a day set aside to discuss environmental issues and bring the importance of conservation to the mainstream. According to "Earth Day 2010: History of Earth Day" the tour which included many stops along the way was unsuccessful in putting the issue onto the national political agenda".



Senator Nelson finally decided to promote the protection of the environment by planning the issues as a "teach-in". The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970. Earth Day provided a nationwide forum for individuals to air their concerns about the state of the environment.

Earth Day celebrations planned for Lebanon include some planned assemblies, reading environmental books and playing some environmental games at the grade school level. There are several websites where you can learn more about Earth Day and about what you can do for your environment: [www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net); [www.chiff.com/home\\_life/holiday/earthday.htm](http://www.chiff.com/home_life/holiday/earthday.htm); <http://holidays.kaboose.com/earthday>

### **New Great Plains Drill for Rent**

The District has a new Great Plains Drill for rent. The drill is an end wheel type and is 13 feet wide, with a 10 foot drilling area. It includes grain, grass and legume boxes, but does not have a warm season grass box.

Fertilizer is not allowed to be added to the seeding bins.

Rental rates are the same for both drills and is \$7.00 per acre with a 10 acre minimum. There is a \$25.00 service fee with each rental, making the 10 acre minimum \$95.00.

We also have one Haybuster 107 No Till Drill. This drill has a 10 foot seeding area and wheel base. This drill also has a grain, grass and legume box. No fertilizer can be use in the boxes. There is no warm season grass box.

We ask that you provide proof of insurance for the vehicle that you will use to pull the drill.

Both drills are currently located at Darrell Calton's (Calton Machinery) on Pecan Road. Darrell handles the scheduling and can be contacted at 417-589-2892. Billing is handled at the District office and any questions pertaining to billing need to directed to Mary Jo at 532-6305 ext 101.

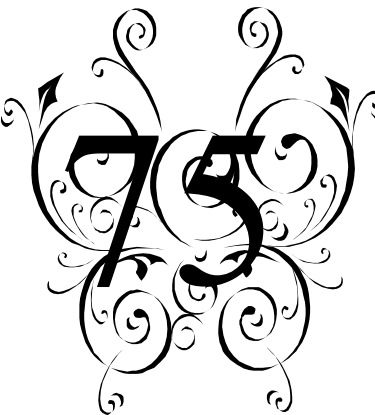


### ***Natural Resources Conservation Service***

#### ***Celebrates 75 years of "Helping People Help the Land"***

NRCS will celebrate 75 years of assisting landowners with conservation on April 27, 2010. Originally called SCS (Soil Conservation Service), it was created out of concern for soil erosion during the dust bowl was changed to Natural Resources Conservation Service, the focus remained on soil conservation.

Hugh Hammond Bennett rector for his arguments that soil make the agricultural lands which useless. Bennett drove this point sional hearing the members from the Dust Bowl go by. After mainder of the meeting went



was named the agencies first di-erosion, if left untreated, would provided the nations food source, home when, during the congres-stopped to watch a dust storm this display of soil erosion the re-smoothly.

What began with demonstration projects in specific watersheds was eventually spread throughout the nation. Different practices has been offered but, over the years the commitment to soil, water, air, plants and animals has remained the same.

The local NRCS office has been present in Laclede County for over 40 years, providing technical services, assisting the soil and water conservation districts and Farm Service Agency and administering federally funded programs.

So let us take the opportunity to say *Thank you and Happy Anniversary* to an agency who has served and continues to serve by

***Helping People Help the Land.***



## 1099's Issued from Office of Administration

If you participated in conservation practices with the soil and water conservation district and received cost share reimbursement you should have received a 1099 for cost share amounts totaling an excess of \$600.00. This amount is for district practices only and does not include any federal programs payments. This income amount should be claimed on your taxes. You can offset the income with the expense used to install the practice. If you received payments totaling over \$600.00 and have not received a 1099, please contact the office to further investigate.

### Conservation Practice Program Highlight

## Well Decommissioning

Recent changes to the state statutes governing the soil and water conservation districts now includes water quality protection as a primary concern. Protecting the water quality should be everyone's concern whether you have a farming operation or are an urban dweller.

A practice that is offered by the soil district is Well Decommissioning. This practice prevents non-point and point source pollutants from entering the well opening.

The **Well Decommissioning** practice can be used on drilled or dug wells or cisterns. A cost share incentive is associated with this practice. The well must be properly closed properly to avoid aquifer contamination. The plugging process begins with chlorinating a gallon of bleach prior to plugging. This cuts down on bacteria in the well and helps to protect the aquifer from contamination. Plugging includes removing the top three feet of casing and filling with chlorinated clean fill rock. After the well has been properly closed the landowner must record the closure to DNR's Division of Environmental Quality. If the actual depth and length of casing and water depth is known, the Department of Natural Resources can advise you to the exact amount and types of materials that you will need to use.



If you have an abandoned well or cistern on your property, closing the well will protect both people and animals. It will also protect your groundwater. Implement your own wellhead protection program by making sure that the area surrounding your well is free from harmful pollutants. If you are interested in this practice, please give us a call.

## You Tell Us!

For the next Quarterly Issue of the District Newsletter we are interested in knowing from our area landowners who uses stock dogs to move your livestock? What breed do you use and how did you train your dog? Do you use more than one dog in a herd? You can contact us at 532-6305 ext. 101.



*"There can be no greater issue than that of conservation in this country."*  
*President Theodore Roosevelt.*

## ***Energy application***

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is offering the opportunity for farmers to increase energy savings through the “Energize Missouri Agriculture” grant. The grant is limited to \$5,000.00 per participant at a 75% cost of equipment and hardware reimbursement.

The grant application is available at the local district office, but the program is being administered by DNR. These funds are part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Applications are due by **April 20, 2010**. Applications may be sent electronically or mailed to MoDNR, Energy Center, P. O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102 Attn: Ag Cost Share.



Items available for the Energy Savings grant included:

- Solar Powered water systems
- Solar Fence Chargers
- Irrigation Improvements
- Dairy Facility Improvements
- Swine and Poultry Facility Improvements
- Upgrade or New Grain Dryers
- Lighting Upgrades, motion sensors or timers
- Conservation Tillage Equipment
- High Efficiency Electric Motors
- Biomass Furnaces/Boilers for other than Poultry Houses

Additional equipment will be considered if the appropriate energy savings can be demonstrated. For more information you can access the website at: **[www.dnr.mo.gov/transform/EnergizeMissouriAgriculture](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/transform/EnergizeMissouriAgriculture)**

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## ***Grazing School lists***

The regional grazing school list for 2010 is now available on the website at: <http://agebb.missouri.edu/mfgc/schools.htm>.

In order to participate in the Planned Grazing Practices offered by the Soil and Water Conservation District you must attend a grazing school. You must attend all days of the grazing school in order to receive your certificate. Schools vary in the number of days with most schools averaging two days long.

Each grazing school is administered by the local agency hosting the school. Costs vary from one school to another depending on whether meals are included or not. Seating is limited at each grazing school, therefore calling early and sending in your registration fee is the only way to reserve your spot at the school.

These schools not only offer a lot of instruction, but the opportunity to visit with other landowners on what types of systems they may be considering. It is a wonderful chance to see first hand what challenges and what positive changes to your operation that a Planned Grazing System will make.



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## **Reduction in Sales Tax Review Results in Less Cost Share Available**

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As a result of a recent request by Governor Jay Nixon cost share practices for the fiscal year have been frozen. The original \$26 million budgeted for conservation practices across the state has been reduced by 2.2 million. Reports of decreased sales tax revenue were discussed at the Area Employees meetings held around the state. Soil and Water Program Director Bryan Hopkins informed those attending the meetings that money collected from sales tax revenue is not available for use for 18 months after collection. This means an 18 month lag in the economy rebounding and the funds for cost share returning to the normal availability status.

The reduction in cost share funding has resulted in no additional cost share applications for FY10, which runs through June 30, 2010. Those landowners who have requested cost share assistance will remain on our landowner log and will be serviced as quickly as possible once cost share funding has resumed. Steps necessary for the cost share program will be followed so that all cost share requests are prepared for the application process as soon as we receive funding.

The conservation practices that have been approved for cost share will be funded, but no changes that would constitute an increase in cost share funds will be allowed. Once a contract is approved the money associated with the cost share for that contract is set aside for payment.

Every landowner who has a current cost share application is encouraged to complete the practice in the time planned. If you are going to be unable to complete a practice, we are asking that you notify the office as soon as possible. Cost share practices that are not completed by June 30th will be reviewed for the new fiscal year. Renewal of the contract may not be automatic. Purchasing supplies does not constitute beginning the conservation practice. Landowners can request assistance in the new year, but will be placed by on the landowner log and serviced in the order of request.

The fiscal year for the soil and water conservation district ends June 30th. The funding amount for each of the conservation categories for next year has yet to be determined. Changes to some cost share practices may be made to ensure that adequate funding is available.

New changes were implemented last fiscal year to the distribution of cost share funding that the District receives. Categories were developed and cost share funds are dedicated to those categories. Funds cannot be diverted to another category. Therefore, all of the cost share can be used in the seeding category, making no new seeding cost share applications available, but funding might still exist to address other conservation concerns.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Spring Seeding Dates—Cool Season Grasses and Legumes—March 1—May 15

Warm Season Grasses, Legumes and Forbes—March 1—June 15

Earth Day—April 22—40th anniversary.

You may think that littering just a little doesn't hurt. Maybe you just dropped a sucker stick or the lid to your water bottle. But every bit of trash is trash. The trash you throw down can end up getting swept into the stream. Trash from parking lots and streets can get washed into storm drains during a heavy rain. After they go into the storm drain they can eventually end up in a stream. The streams run into bigger streams, then into rivers, and can then enter the ocean.

Fresh water from rivers runs into the Salty water of the Ocean and forms an *Estuary*. The water lies in layers with the fresh water on top, the second layer is where the fresh water and salt water have begun to mix and the bottom layer is the salt water. Learn more about estuaries at: <http://www.nhptv.org/natureworks/nwep6a.htm>.

Estuaries can also be called Sounds, Bays and Harbours. An estuary is a wonderful place for animals and people to live. Since these areas are protected by land on either side they remain warm and provide excellent habitat. Use the word find below to find words that pertain to an Estuary. You can find the answers to the word find located on our website at: <http://www.swcd.mo.gov/laclede/projects.htm/newsletters>

S C R T V T X S A N G I O P C N D R S O P X E R R U  
L O N M I K C C R R F D V R X D S A E K O L P E J T  
L N M E S T U A R Y T E N I N L E T S B N A T E R S  
Q S W X F X A C N I O P J K N O M O S C F A C E S S  
K E L C M N N I L P C A F G T W E N M E W R R N C A  
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G I T V G L Y E F H J E S W L E A H O H W F D D P G  
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T N F N J T T D S X L S D I Y D T F N F E F S K J G  
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E G K T N F G T C X U C B D B G A F S J D V C A F S  
Q T L R T C F Y A D Y D A C G N R U E K U D G D H U  
S N P I R X D S R E T L Y C B M S G D L H B B D V G  
D M O E C O S Y S T E M S H F W H A R B O U R S C F  
C R W N C W B A E E G M T F E Q S C D H H V D D X G  
A E D T H A F B W Y F T F R E S H W A T E R D R D J  
P I E S J S R O D W D B U D D C X A I Y R S S D D G  
M N I P E V A D R T Y R E P H J I O P N B U I K O P

**Find these Estuary related words:**

**Conservation**

**Estuary**

**Excessive Nutrients**

**Eutrophication**

**Hypoxia**

**Low Oxygen**

**Inlets**

**Ecosystem**

**Freshwater**

**Saltwater**

**Sounds**

**Harbours**

**Salt Marsh**

**Litter**

**Lagoons**

**Bays**



## ***Have you seen a Locavore?***

What do you think a Locavore of the Year for the Oxford American of a dinosaur?

A Locavore is the name and produced within 100 miles you think would come from be involved? How far does on your table? According Education about Sustainable the average American meal to get from farm to plate".

Think about the fuel peaches from California to consider the carbon emissions ated from transporting products. duce has to travel a great distance selling point it is often picked treated to ripen after arrival. perish quickly have lengthen shelf life. All pact on the environment.

A local farmers purchase food grown out additives. Not duce at the peak of are reducing the carbon environment. planting and own garden tables. you are Locavore. color the send it along your Locavore story..

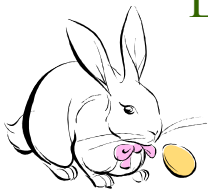
would be? Locavore was the 2007 Word Dictionary. Do you think it is the name

of someone who only eats food grown of where they live. What benefits do eating locally? What resources would your produce travel before it is placed to CUESA (The Center for Urban Agriculture) , "It is estimated that travels about 1500 miles

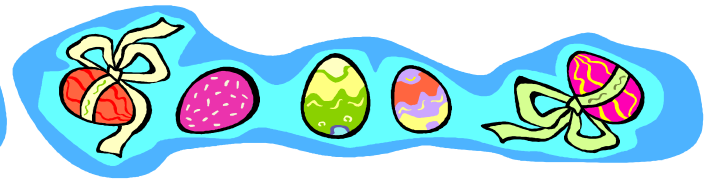
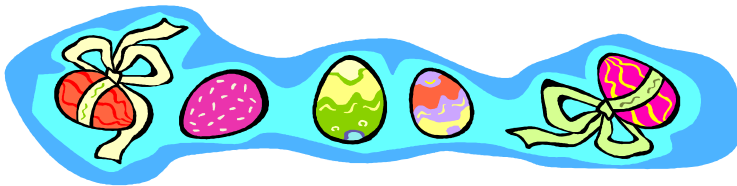
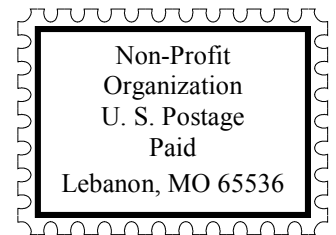
used to transport New York. Now that are gener- Since the pro- to reach the unripe, then Foods that tends to preservatives added to these things have an im-

market is a good way to close to home and with- only can you buy pro- freshness and flavor, you emissions entering the You could also try growing some of your fruits and vege- Let us know what doing to be a You can picture and back to us, with





Laclede County SWCD  
1242 Deadra Drive  
Lebanon, MO 65536



### **District Rentals**

2- No-till Drills—located at Calton's Machinery in Morgan

### **District Loaners**

Lebanon: Soil probe, Augur, Spinning jenny

Address Change: if you have a change of address please call 417 532-6305, Ext101 or 1 800 203-4467, Ext. 101 to notify us of your change. Contact the same numbers if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or would prefer to receive it via e-mail.

### ***BOARD OF SUPERVISORS***

Steve Stratton.....Chairman  
Bill Shields..... Vice-Chairman  
Dean Andersen.....Treasurer  
Adam Hoffman.....Member  
James Thompson..... Secretary

### ***DISTRICT PERSONNEL***

Mary Jo Tannehill..... District Manager  
Jimmie Lee Haines, Jr..... SALT Project Mgr / Tech

### ***NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL***

Daniel Silberberg..... District Conservationist  
Pam Cornelius..... Resource Conservationist  
Alan Garton..... Resource Conservationist

### **District Phone Numbers**

Office: 1-417- 532-6305 Fax: 1-417- 533-3689  
1- 800- 203-4467  
Extensions: Mary Jo - 101 Jimmie - 118  
Pam - 112 Alan - 111

The Laclede County Soil and Water Conservation District and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age disability, political belief, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (Voice or TDD). The Laclede County SWCD and USDA are equal